

# The Bow Valley Fiddlers

## Audition Information

### Sept - May Program Year

- The number of fiddlers that are accepted into the program and into each individual group is limited.
- Current Bow Valley Fiddlers will be given priority placement as long as they meet all eligibility criteria.
- Candidates will be put onto a waiting list if the appropriate group has been filled.
- The number of group lessons is 28 per year.
- Each fiddler will receive individual and/or small group coaching
- Each group will participate in at least one workshop, which will be funded by the Calgary Fiddlers Association.

### Number of Positions and Eligibility

- The Bow Valley Fiddlers will be divided into groups according to age and ability.
- There will be a maximum of 15 students per group.
- Students between the ages of 7 and 18 are eligible for the program.
- Must have and maintain a minimum average at school of 70%. This policy has been implemented to stress the organization's belief that school must remain a successful candidate's number one priority.
- Bow Valley Strings & Things may include a variety of instruments... a maximum of 3 extra curricular instruments will be assigned to the C D E and Teen Bow Valley Groups. Strings & Things students may come from outside of our fiddle program, or involve students that are already members of the Bow Valley Fiddlers.

### Auditions

- Auditions will take place in June and September of each year.
- Auditions will require both parent and candidate.
- All current members of the Bow Valley Fiddlers may be required to participate in this audition/interview process.

### Criteria

In order to ensure that the selection process is fair to all individuals auditioning, the following criteria will be used to rank all candidates. A mark will be assigned in each category.

**NOTE: Technical proficiency on instrument should be a minimum of Grade I.**

- 1. 3 pieces of candidate's choice:** Pieces can be fiddling or classical.
- 2. Scales:** The candidate should be prepared to play one scale of their choice.
- 3. Sight-Reading:** The candidate will be asked to sight read a small passage provided by the adjudicators at the audition.
- 4. Ear Training:** The candidate will be asked to play back a short melody provided by the adjudicators at the audition.
- 5. Stage Presence:** Stage presence is a vital component of the Bow Valley Fiddlers. Throughout the course of the audition, the candidate will be judged on their performance, presentation and communication.
- 6. Demonstrated interest in Fiddle Music:** Please be prepared to discuss prior fiddle experience or interests.
- 7. Time Commitment:** Ability to make the time commitment and to complete the required tasks will be discussed at the audition and is critical to the program.

## Program Fees by Group (Subject to Change for audition year)

**Junior:** Total fee of **\$830** for the year. Includes approximately 28 group rehearsals and approximately 5 hours of small group sectionals.

**Intermediate:** Total fee of **\$1010** for the year. Includes approximately 28 group rehearsals and approximately 10 hours of small group sectionals.

**Senior:** Total fee of **\$1010** for the year. Includes approximately 28 group rehearsals and approximately 10 hours of small group sectionals.

**Teen:** Total fee of **\$1010** for the year. Includes approximately 28 group rehearsals and approximately 10 hours of small group sectionals.

**Performing:** Total fee of **\$1095** for the year. Includes approximately 28 group rehearsals and approximately 12 hours of individual or small group coaching.

**Strings & Things:** Total fee of **\$830** for the year. Includes approximately 28 group rehearsals and approximately 5 hours of individual coaching.

**\*If you are already a fiddle member of a BV group, you will not be required to pay the Group fees for the Strings & Things program. If you require extra individual coaching, arrangements can be made.**

### Summary of Fees and Instalments

Group	Total Annual Fee Full Payment	2 Instalments *		6 Instalments *	
		October 1	January 15	October 1	Jan 15 to May 15
Junior	\$ 830	\$430	\$405	\$430	\$ 85
Intermediate	\$1010	\$510	\$505	\$510	\$105
Senior	\$1010	\$510	\$505	\$510	\$105
Performing	\$1095	\$595	\$505	\$595	\$105
Teen	\$1010	\$510	\$505	\$510	\$105
S&T	\$ 830	\$430	\$405	\$430	\$ 85
Calgary Fiddlers	\$1510	\$810	\$705	\$810	\$145

**\*There is a \$5 admin fee on instalment payments which is included in the amounts shown above.**

## Program Fee Description and Payments

### Bow Valley Fiddlers Program Fees may be paid as follows:

- (a) One lump sum payment by cheque or credit card on October 1 **OR**
  - (b) Two Instalments on October 1 and balance on January 15 **OR**
  - (c) Six Instalments on October 1 with the balance of fees paid in equal instalments on January 15, February 15, March 15, April 15, and May 15.
- A service fee of \$5 per instalment will be added the instalment options. The Calgary Fiddlers Association requires post-dated cheques or credit card authorization on October 1 for these future payments.

### Mount Royal University Registration Fee:

The Calgary Fiddlers Association is an affiliated program of the Mount Royal University Conservatory and this affiliation provides certain privileges such as the use of MRU facilities. As such, all students in the Bow Valley Fiddlers program must pay a \$20 registration fee to Mount Royal University for each program for which you are enrolled. Payment of the Mount Royal University registration fees allows the family to purchase a parking pass at Mount Royal University.

### Withdrawal from Program and Refund of Fees:

The CFA's program withdrawal and refund policy:

1. If the student withdraws prior to December 1, their fees will be prorated according to the number of group lessons that have been held and the number of coaching sessions attended or forfeited to the date of withdrawal.
2. If the student withdraws on or after December 1, they are responsible for full payment of fees for the program year.
3. The Artistic Director must be informed of the withdrawal either by email or telephone call.

## Activities

- Successful candidates will be expected to attend all scheduled rehearsals and performances including Strings & Things participants.
- Candidates will be required to be absent from school on occasion.
- In addition to rehearsals, all Bow Valley groups will perform in one public show in December as well as one in May or June.
- Bow Valley Fiddlers also do local performances as follows:
  - Junior Fiddlers:
    - Local performances (approximately 4 between October and June).
  - Intermediate Fiddlers:
    - Local performances (approximately 8 between October and June).
  - Senior Fiddlers:
    - Local performances (approximately 15 between October and June).
    - One or Two performance opportunities with The Calgary Fiddlers.
  - Teen Fiddlers:
    - Local performances (approximately 10 between October and June)

## **Parental Involvement and Commitment**

Upon enrolment in the Bow Valley Fiddlers program and payment of fees, an Associate membership is granted to each family with children in the program.

The Associate membership gives the family an opportunity to vote for a parent representative who is a voting member of the Board of Directors of the Calgary Fiddlers Association. The family may also attend the Annual General Meeting of the Association, which occurs before the end of October each year. The family also receives at least two newsletters per year.

The Calgary Fiddlers Association requires each Bow Valley Fiddler and their family to participate in the following:

1. Selling Tickets to all concerts hosted by the CFA.
2. Parents may be asked to volunteer at fundraising events and concerts as well as helping staff at Casino once every 18 months.

Parents are required to provide transportation to and from all public performances. As well, they are responsible for ensuring that their child is prepared for each public performance and attired according to the dress code for their child's group. Note: that some of the costume must be provided by the family.

## **Benefits**

- Performance experience
- Development of personal skills such as discipline and confidence
- Opportunity to socialize with children who have similar musical interests
- Access to highly skilled clinicians through workshops
- Cultural experience
- Exposure to a variety of types of fiddle music

## **Uniform**

Each Fiddler will receive part of their costume from the Association and that part of the costume remains the property of the Association. The family will be required to provide a deposit cheque before a costume will be issued.

The balance of the uniform (such as black pants or white shirts) will be purchased by the family from an indicated supplier. Further details will be made available in the Bow Valley Fiddlers Handbook and will be discussed at auditions.